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The Rondalles del Baix Vinalopó: Morifs and Tale Types **Edward Neugaard**

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THE RONDALLES DEL BAIX VINALOPÓ: MOTIFS AND TALE TYPES

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The "Rondalles del Baix Vinalopó" is a collection of some thirty-two rondalles which were collected by the Alacantine folklorist Prof. Joaquim González i Caturla and published in 1987. Two years previously he had published another *rondallari*, the "Rondalles de l'alacantí."

The compiler has placed the tales he collected in several categories, using the classification system common to most folktale collections. The ten tales in the section "Tema fantàstica" are authentic fairytales (*rondalles* in Catalan; *Märchen* in the international folklore designation). The second category of tales in the collection are those of "Temàtica costumbrista." These are really legends (*llegendes*), which are not usually considered folk tales. There are also three tales of 'Temàtica religiosa,' and another three of 'Miracles.' The last section, 'Animals personificats,' consists of three fables.

Each tale has been examined as to its folk motif and tale type, using the systems established by Stith Thompson and Antti Aarne/Stith Thompson, respectively. If the motif in question is not catalogued in Thompson's *Motif-Index of Folk Literature* (6 vols. Bloomington: Indiana U, 1955-1957), an appropriate motif index number has been assigned with an asterisk, as is the universal norm in similar folk tale indices. If the tale type appears in Aarne-Thompson's *The Types of the Folk-Tale* (2 ed., *FF Communications*, 184. Helsinki: Academia Scientiarum Fennica, 1981) the listing is given with Aa-Th and the corresponding number.

A. RONDALLES FANTÀSTIQUES

1. *Granereta de pastera* ("Bread-Box Broom." Type: Aa-Th 510: "Cinderella and Cap o' Rushes")

Motifs:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| C761.3. | Taboo: staying too long at ball. Must leave before certain hour. |
| H94.2. | Identification by ring baked in cake. |
| H111. | Identification by garment. |
| L52. | Abused youngest daughter. |
| L102. | Unpromising heroine. |

- L162. Lowly heroine marries prince.
 N711. Prince sees heroine at ball and is enamored.
 N712. Prince first sees heroine as she comes forth from her hiding-box.
 P232. Mother and daughter.
 S12. Cruel mother.

2. *El príncep aventurer i l'amor de les tres taronges* ("The Adventuresome Prince and the Love of the Three Oranges." *Type*: Aa-Th 408: "The Three Oranges." This tale is a mix of several tales. It is the richest in motifs in this collection. This same tale, with the title "L'amor de les tres taronges" appears in the *Rondalles valencianes* of Enric Valor, vol. 6: 7-40)

Motifs:

- B184.1. Magic horse.
 B211.1.3. Speaking horse.
 B350. Grateful animals.
 B391. Animals grateful for food.
 B401. Helpful horse.
 B455.3. Helpful eagle.
 B472. Helpful whale.
 B481.1. Helpful ant.
 B542.1.1. Eagle carries man to safety.
 B571. Animals perform tasks for man.
 D5. Enchanted person.
 D131. Transformation: man to horse.
 D211. Transformation: man (woman) to fruit.
 D211.1. Transformation: man (woman) to orange.
 D431.4. Transformation: fruit to person.
 D610. Repeated transformation.
 D683. Transformation by magician.
 D721.5. Disenchantment from fruit by opening it.
 D981.3. Magic orange.
 D1016. Magic blood of animal.
 D1286. Magic golden horseshoe.
 *D1382.13.1. Blood of magic horse protects against fire (extreme heat).
 D1581. Tasks performed by use of magic objects.
 D1511. Heat test.
 D1711. Magician.
 D1841.3. Burning magically evaded.
 F601.1. Extraordinary companions perform hero's tasks.
 F715.2.1. River of blood.
 *F715.2.6. River of bones.

- F862. Extraordinary horseshoe.
 F862.1. Golden horseshoe.
 F989.15. Hunt for magic animal.
 H335. Tasks assigned to suitors.
 H941. Accumulated transformation.
 H970. Help in performing tasks.
 H1154. Task: capturing animals.
 H1154.8. Task: capturing magic horse.
 H1210.2. Quest assigned by king.
 H1221. Quest for adventure.
 H1233.6. Animals help hero on quest.
 H1235. Succession of helpers on quest. One helper sends to another, who sends another.
 H1241.1. Hero returning from successful quest.
 H1242.1. Unpromising hero succeeds in quest.
 H1250. Quests to the other world.
 H1254. Quest to otherworld for magic objects.
 H1320. Quest for marvelous objects or animals.
 H1331. Quest for remarkable animal.
 H1331.4. Quest for marvelous horse.
 H1381.3.1.1. Quest for bride for king.
 L100. Unpromising hero.
 N800. Helpers.
 Q40. Kindness rewarded.
 Q45. Hospitality rewarded.
 R245. Whale boat. A man is carried across the water on a whale.
 R111.1.7. Rescue from magician.

3. *Les bruixes de Tabarca* ("The Witches of Tabarca." Type: Not listed in Aa-Th)

Motifs:

- B181.1. Magic cat.
 D142. Transformation: man to cat.
 D702.1.1. Cat's paw cut off (injured): woman's hand injured (missing).
 D1121. Magic boat.
 D1123. Magic ship.
 D1520.15. Transportation in magic ship.
 D1521.2. Ship with miraculous speed.
 D1523.2. Self-propelling boat/ship.
 E501.2.3. Witches in wild hunt.
 F841. Extraordinary boat (ship).
 G200. Witch.
 G211.1.7. Witch in form of cat.

- G243. Witch's Sabbath.
 G252. Witch in form of cat has hand cut(off); recognized next morning by (wounded) missing hand.
 G275.7. Witch bound and beaten.
 G275.12. Witch in the form of an animal is injured or killed as a result of the injury to the animal.
 G277. Testing of witches.

4. *La flor del liolà: La flor del liri blau* ("The Lilly." Type: Aa-Th 550; "Search for Golden Bird"; 551: "The Sons on a Quest for Remedy for their Father"; 780: "The Singing Bone." Cf. Amades, *Rondallari* num. 85, "La flor del penical," and Alcover, *Rondalles mallorquines* 2: 85-94, "La Flor Romanial")

Motifs:

- A2611. Plants from body of slain person or animal.
 D975. Magic flower.
 D1223.1. Magic flute.
 D1316.5. Magic speaking reed betrays secret.
 D1610.34. Speaking musical instrument.
 D1610.34.2. Speaking flute.
 E231. Return from dead to reveal murder.
 E631. Reincarnation in plant growing from grave.
 E631.1.1. Lily from grave.
 E632. Reincarnation as musical instrument. The Singing Bone. A musical instrument (flute) made from a plant growing from the grave of a murdered person speaks and tells of the crime.
 F814. Extraordinary flower.
 H1210.1. Quest assigned by father.
 H1210.2. Quest assigned by king.
 H1324. Quest for miraculous remedy.
 H1233.1. Old woman helps on quest.
 H1242. Youngest brother alone succeeds on quest.
 H1333.5. Quest for marvelous flower.
 K1932. Imposters claim reward (prize) earned by hero.
 K2211. Treacherous brother(s).
 L10. Victorious youngest son.
 L13. Compassionate youngest son.
 N271. Murder will out.
 N825.3. Old woman helper.
 Q2. Kind and unkind.
 Q211. Murder punished.
 W154.12.3. Ungrateful brothers plot against rescuer.

5. *El tresor de la muralla* ("The Treasure of the Wall": *Type*: Not in Aa-Th)

Motifs:

- N_{511.1.6.1}. Treasure found in ruined wall.
 T₅₂. Bride purchased.
 T_{75.2}. Scorned lover kills successful one.
 T₉₂. Rivals in love.
 V₃₃₁. Conversion to Christianity.
 W₁₈₁. Jealousy.

6. *Marieta i el mort* ("Little Mary and Death:" *Type*: Not in Aa-Th)

Motifs:

- C₂₂₇. Taboo: eating human flesh.
 E₂₃₅. Return from dead to punish indignities to corpse.
 *E₂₃₅. Return from dead to punish theft of innards.
 E_{421.1.1}. Ghost visible to one person alone.
 G₁₀. Cannibalism.
 G₆₀. Human flesh eaten unwittingly.

7. *L'endevinalla de la princesa* (*Type*: Aa-Th 851: "The Princess who Cannot Solve the Riddle")

Motifs:

- H₃₄₂. Suitor test: outwitting princess.
 H₅₅₁. Princess offered to man who can out-riddle her.
 H₅₆₅. Riddle propounded from chance experience. On way to riddle trial youth sees things that give him a clue for his riddles.
 H₈₀₂. Riddle: one killed none and yet killed seven. (Dog is poisoned; ravens eat of him and die; seven robbers eat raven and die).
 K_{527.1}. Poisoned food fed to animal instead of to intended victim.
 L₁₃₁. Lowly hero marries princess.
 *N_{332.2.2}. Dog accidentally poisoned instead of master.
 P₁₀. King.
 P₄₀. Princess.
 P₂₃₄. Father and daughter.
 T₆₈. Princess offered as prize.

8. *Els tres consells* ("The Three Pieces of Advice." *Type*: Aa-Th 150: "Advice of the Fox." Cf. Enric Valor, *Rondallari*, vol. 8:61-79, "El darrer consell," and Esteve Caseponce, 203-231, "Els tres consells")

Motifs:

- D821. Magic object received from old woman.
- D1031.1. Magic bread.
- D1465.1. Magic bread furnishes treasure.
- J21. Counsels proved wise by experience.
- J21.2. "Do not act when angry": counsel proved wise by experience.
- J21.5. "Do not leave the highway": counsel proved wise by experience.
- J21.6. "Do not ask questions about extraordinary things": counsel proved wise by experience.
- J171. Proverbial wisdom: counsels.
- N340. Hasty killing or condemnation.
- N825.3. Old woman helper.

9. *El dia del miracle* ("The Day of the Miracle." *Type*: A legend; therefore is not in Aa-Th)

Motifs:

- B53.0.1. Siren in mermaid form.
- B81. Mermaid. Woman with tail of fish. Lives in sea.
- D478.10. Salty water turned into fresh.
- D683. Transformation by magician.
- D1711. Magician.

10. *Els garrofers del dimoni* ("The Devil's Carob Trees." *Type*: It is a legend of terror)

Motifs:

- B147.2.2.4. Owl as bird of ill omen.
- D941. Magic forest.
- F812. Extraordinary forest.
- G303.3.1. The devil in human form.
- G303.3.1.16. Devil appears as a child.
- G303.3.2. The devil in superhuman form.
- G303.4.1.6. Devil has horns.
- *G303.20.10. Devil squeezed person to death.

B. RONDALLES COSTUMISTES

1. *La dona i el capellà* ("The Woman and the Priest," *Type*: Aa-Th 1730: "The Entrapped Suitor")

Motifs:

- J2301. Gullible husbands.
 *K1211.2. Lover caught in chimney.
 *K1218.1.9. Importunate lover is forced to hide in chimney.
 K1510. Adulteress outwits husband.
 K1521.1. Paramour successfully hidden in chimney (fireplace).
 K2213. Treacherous wife.
 P210. Husband and wife.
 T481. Adultery.

2. *Peret? Mare, coc!* ("Pete? - Mommy, cluck." *Type*: Aa-Th 1218: "Numskull Sits on Eggs to Finish the Hatching")

Motifs:

- J1902.1. Numskull sits on eggs to finish the hatching.

3. *La xirindanga* ("The piercing." *Type*: Aa-Th 1726A: "Earrings for Silence")

Motifs:

- J1111. Clever girl.
 P426.1. Priest.
 X1506. The extraordinary names. Things are designated by senseless names.

4. *Joanet Pelitxilico* ("Johnny Little." *Type*: Aa-Th 700: "Tom Thumb," and 2000-2013: "Chains based numbers or objects")

Motifs:

- F535.1. Thumbling. Person the size of a thumb.
 L112.2. Very small hero.
 *Z49.15. Tom Thumb gets burned. Thumbling falls into pot and is burned. Doctor prescribes goat's milk for burns. Goat will only give milk if given grape leaves to eat; grape leaves want water; water wants a princess, who bathes in the river. Thumbling cured as a result.

5. *El sangandongo* ("The Bloodsucker." *Type*: Does not appear in Aa-Th)

Motifs:

- K2213. Treacherous wife.
P210. Husband and wife.
T481. Adultery.

6. *El seminarista famolenc* ("The Starving Seminarian." *Type*: Not in Aa-Th)

Motifs:

- J1241. Clever dividing, which favors the divider.
*J1242.2.1. Man divides a large fish by quoting Latin.
P426.1. Priest.

7. *El burro del tío Paulet* ("Uncle Paul's Burro": *Type*: Aa-Th 1682: "Teaching one's Horse to Live without Food")

Motifs:

- J1914. Horse (mule) taught to live without food. Dies.
J2120. Disregard of danger to animals.

8. *Els enganys de les dones* ("Women's Tricks." *Type*: Aa-Th 1406: "The Merry Wives wager which can best fool her husband")

Motifs:

- J2301. Gullible husbands.
J2311.0.1. Wife makes her husband believe that he is dead.
J2312. Naked person made to believe that he is clothed.
J2316. Husband made to believe that his house has moved during his absence. The wife and her confederates transform the house into an inn with tables, signs, drinkers, etc. The husband cannot find his house.
K1545. Wives wager as to who can best fool her husband.
N10. Wagers on wives, husbands, or servants.

9. *Seculorum, saculera* ("Saeculi, Sex oh oui!" *Type*: Not in Aa-Th)

Motifs:

- *JK1264.10. Altar-boy who overheard priest with his mistress repeats pseudo-Latin phrases the priest uttered in a moment of passion. Priest rewards his silence.
P426.1. Priest.
T310. Celibacy and continence.

V465.1.1. Incontinent priest.

10/11. *Joanet el dels pinyols* and *Conte del mallorquí* ("Johnny of the Pine Nuts" and "The Mallorcan's Tale." Type: Aa-Th 1322: Words in a Foreign Language Thought to be Insults)

Motifs:

- J1802. Words in a foreign language thought to be insults.
XIII.7. Misunderstood words lead to comic results.

12. *Com parlen a Guardamar?* ("How Do they Talk in Guardamar?" Type: Not in Aa-Th)

Motifs:

- A1333. Confusion of tongues.
A1482. Origin of language (dialects).
J98. Stones shaken in jar: difficulty in learning many dialects.

13. *El pipiritxó* ("The Pipiritxó." A chain tale that does not appear in Aa-Th)

C. RONDALLES RELIGIOSES

1. *Per què la mula no té fills?* ("Why Mules have no Offspring")

Motifs:

- A2561.1. Why mule is sterile.

2. *Sant Pere i la mitja taronja* ("St. Peter and the Half Orange." This tale contains no motifs nor a tale type)

3. *Les collites de la figuera* ("The Fig Tree's Crops." Type: Aa-Th 774G: "Peter's Favorite Fruit." The Lord asks St. Peter what kind of fruit he likes best. Peter likes grapes and wine best but says he prefers figs. Hence figs bear twice a year)

Motifs:

- A2721.5. Tree (fig) on which Judas hanged himself cursed.
*A2711.7.1 Fig tree produces multiple harvests per year because it was favorite fruit of St. Peter.

D. RONDALLES MIRACULOSES

1. *La Mare de Déu del Loreto de Santa Pola* ("The Mother of God of Loreto of Santa Pola." *Type*: None)

Motifs:

- V250. The Virgin Mary.
V282. Stella Maris. Virgin Mary as protectress of sailors.

2. *La Mare de Déu de l'Assumpció* ("The Mother of God of the Assumption." *Type*: Not in Aa-Th)

Motifs:

- V250. The Virgin Mary.
V268. Miracles performed under protection of Virgin Mary.

3. *Miracle de Sant Francesc* ("Miracle of Saint Francis": *Type*: Not in Aa-Th)

Motifs:

- D1722. Magic power from saint.
H984. Tasks performed with help of saint.
K1811. Saints in disguise visit mortals.
N848. Saint as helper.
R165. Rescue by saint.
V220. Saints.

E. RONDALLES DE ANIMALS PERSONIFICATS

1. *La raboseta i el rabosot* ("The Male and the Female Fox." *Type*: Aa-Th 3: "Sham Bud and Brains." The fox covers his head with buttermilk (beans) and says that his brains have been knocked out)

Motifs:

- K473. Sham blood and brains. Fox covers his head with milk (beans) and says that his brains have been knocked out.
K522.1. Escape by shaming death: blood and brains. The trickster covers his head with beans so it will be thought that his brains have been knocked out.
K1875. Deception by sham blood.

2. *La raboseta i el gat* ("The Fox and the Cat." *Type*: Aa-Th 105: "The Cat's Only Trick." She saves herself on a tree. The fox who knows a hundred tricks is captured)

Motifs:

- J1662. The cat's only trick. She saves herself on a tree. The fox, who knows a hundred tricks, is captured.
L330. Easy escape of weak (small).

3. *L'home i el gos. El conte dels ànecs* ("The Man and the Dog; The Tale of the Ducks:" *Type*: Aa-Th 2300: Endless Tales)

Motifs:

- Z11. Endless tales.
Z17. Rounds. Stories which begin over and over again and repeat.

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